Tid Bits Of Kentucky Folklore

"STANDARDIZATION"

Last week I talked about sophistication or the lack of it. This week I would like to say something about standardization of our ways of living. No one age can claim that it is much more or less standardization than another; the difference between one age and another is largely the sort of things that are emphasized rather than the sort that merely exist.

In a great many ways the more primitive times were more standardized than our own time. When most people lived in the country, they were judged by the rather unyielding mores of country life. Not to fit in branded one as queer, and few wanted, very seriously, to be queer. That so many people appeared queer only proves that the standards were so rigid and unflexible. It is true that some things, like clothes, were handily so standardized as they are now, but this resulted, probably, because so many of the garments worn by women and men alike were home-made, following local or even family patterns. Naturally, to those who took a fashion magazine these people were oddities, as compared with the fashion plates in the magazine. But the general conduct patterns were much more rigidly enforced, it seems to me. The core of local society was small but usually powerful, even those who resented the pronouncements of the keepers of the neighborhood customs usually fell in line or felt guilty for not doing so. Queerness in clothes could be tolerated after a fashion, but people just must follow the regular line of thinking or be branded by some evil name. Most of the village atheists that I have known were worlds removed from atheism or any other danger-ous-ness; they merely were able to think beyond the range of the setters of neighborhood thought.

Many people lament our present hide-bound standardization, but I believe that most of us are far more free than most people were at Fidelity when I could first remember. It is true that our clothes are quite similar, that we have telephones or radios or cars or television sets, that our children go to high school and college, that we take trips at the family car to Washington and New Orleans and New York and Chicago, that we sing the same songs and read many of the same magazines. But somewhere the standardization stops, for the average person of our times is free to follow his own nose in choosing his career, in acting as he pleases so long as he does not violate any good-sized law. My father's cousin, who was almost a martyr because he was a musician of sorts, would today be free to follow his own desire and might even become famous on the radio and ultimately own a big house and thumb his nose at such detractors as he once had. The girl I knew who wanted to study medicine but who could not overcome the neighborhood prejudice against such an unheard-of thing could today have her own clinic and be accepted as kindly as everybody accepted her doctor uncle. And the boy who liked to paint pictures could be assured of encouragement from his teachers and neighbors rather than be prayed for publicly for throwing away his life on such worthless or even sinful trifles. Even the boy who liked flowers and birds and wondered in the woods for the love of it could join any one of a dozen organizations of scientists and be encouraged to make a lifetime profession of his scientific leanings, rather than be scoffed at by the young and suspected of almost everything by older people.

The stone that the builders rejected, in life as in religious thinking, often becomes the head of the corner. Professions once frowned upon or even persecuted today bring meat and bread to people who would have formerly had to beg or give up their foolish dreaming. Maybe we are still a little too severe on youngsters who dream about a future that we older people could never have visualized. For example, who could have imagined a boy of my generation, who loved to tinker but who was pretty worthless otherwise ultimately becoming an auto mechanic of such skill that he is consulted as a great man in his field. Standardization could easily have made him a discontented farmer or store-keeper.

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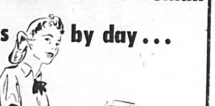

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Mystery Farm Identified As James Platt Home

UK Library Gives Books To Students

University of Kentucky students who clean themselves in public places (book lovers) had a pleasant surprise awaiting them this week when they reported for the second semester. Officials of the UK Margaret I. King Library announced that the library plans to give away nearly 500 volumes. All are high quality books that will make worthy additions to any student's private library. This mass gift activity has been made possible by an anonymous University alumnus who is now a leading attorney and a book collector himself. Only one "string" is attached to the deal. Any student may select up to ten books for his library if he promises to enter his library in the annual Samuel M. Wilson Library Contest some time prior to his graduation.

Miranda Homemakers

Ten members and one visitor answered the roll call with an important Historical event, when we met at the home of Mrs. W. W. Rigg, with Mrs. Lowell Shaw Cobbston last Wednesday. We were glad to have Mrs. G. C. Grover, a former member, as a visitor.

Mrs. Willie Stone gave the devotional, and Mrs. W. B. Claypool read a poem, "Conquering Discouragement." Mrs. Edgar Scott gave an article on "Safety Begins at Home." Mrs. Luther Clay was selected to give the lesson on Poultry and Garden next month.

We had a report from the three members, Mrs. John Clay, Mrs. W. B. Claypool and Mrs. Rachael Stacy, who went to deliver our gifts to the inmates at the County Infirmary last week. They also took cake and ice cream and gave a short program. They found the inmates a very appreciative audience.

Our lesson next month will be caning chairs and stools.

Basques on the French-Spanish border have netted wood pigeons commercially for generations, says the National Geographic Society. Each fall thousands of birds fly through a narrow Pyrenees pass en route to the warm Mediterranean. Hunters hurl wooden disks in the air to imitate hawks in flight. Frightened pigeons fly into a fear of falcon attacks from above and are trapped in nets. For each bird snared, 50,000 escape the ambush.

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West Homemakers

Mrs. W. M. Kendall

The Carlisle West Homemakers club enjoyed their February meeting on Friday, 12 with Mrs. E. E. Plunkett on Sycamore street and also enjoyed seeing her many collections of antiques.

In giving the devotional, Mrs. Frank Henry used as her scriptural selection, Ps. 33 and also gave some very appropriate readings in connection with Lincoln's Birthday and the fact that many other great men were born in this month as well as quite a few of our club members.

Most of those who had started braided rugs had them well on the way to being finished. The membership questionaire was filled out by the fifteen present.

The landscape chairman, Mrs. Plunkett, suggested that we make early plans for our flower beds and lawns.

Miss Barnes mentioned some of the highlights of the Farm and Home week and four of the members present had attended some of the programs during the convention.

Mrs. Frank Henry was selected for a Listener to any suggestions as to what we would like to have as a project for another year.

Orders were given for cane for chairs and the lesson on Chair caning will be given on February 26.

The entire group enjoyed a profitable game of Forfeit suggested by Mrs. Irvin. The pennies collected were added to our general fund.

Our hostess served a delicious dessert with coffee.

The next meeting is to be with Mrs. Albert Henry on Friday, March 12.

Liming Of Soils May Be Overdone

The liming of soils, long practiced in growing certain crops, can be overdone, according to research at the University of Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station.

A report of the station says too much lime tends to interfere with the beneficial action of elements found in the soil in small quantities, such as copper, zinc, nickel, cobalt and manganese. However, this does not mean that liming should not be done. It is overliming that should be avoided.

The investigation of the role of the so-called minor elements in crop production, begun several years ago, was expanded an made more effective when, in 1951, Keeneland Foundation, Lexington, made a grant of $25,000 a year for 10 years to the department of animal pathology. These departments now are cooperating in a project designed to do research work in the role of trace or scarce elements in Crop production and in the feeding values of crops. Also being investigated is the effect of these trace elements on animal nutrition and animal diseases.

A double-deck broiler house built by Edward Henning, Hancock county, will hold 12,000 to 14,000 birds.

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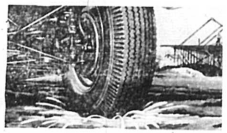

The "rear" seats won't seem the same with Ford's new Ball-Joint Suspension "pacing" the way for you. You'll enjoy a softer, more level ride because Ford's new system allows greater shock absorbing movement of the front wheels. Handlings far better too. That's because conventional kingpins have been replaced by simple sealed ball joints that won't stick or bind. Another car in Ford's field can equal Ford's ride—because no other has Ball-Joint Suspension

Seals out dirt. You can forget road splash because dirt and water can't get into the ball joints in Ford's new front suspension. Each of the four joints is effectively sealed by a unique rubber-and metal shield. This means that contact surfaces of each ball and socket remain clean—wear is kept to a minimum.

Keeps that new-car feel. You'll enjoy Ford's new-car feel much longer because ball joints are spring-loaded to compensate automatically for any wear. Front wheels hold alignment far longer than with conventional systems. Ball joints can't stick or bind. Steering remains consistently easy.

Agile new performance, too, is yours in a '54 Ford . . . whether you choose Ford's new 130-h.p. V-block V-8 or 115-h.p. I-block Six. And no matter which of Ford's 28 new models you choose you enjoy recognized style leadership—with clean, modern lines . . . sparkling new colors . . . and harmonizing upholstery fabrics and trim.

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1950 Chev. Town Sedan, one owner,radio & heater.
1950 Dodge Sport Sedan, one owner, see this car.
1950 Chev. Club Coupe radio & heater, new car trade-in.
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1950 Chev. Styleline Two door, one owner, good condition.
1950 Chev. Fleetline Two door, black, radio & heater, extra good.
1949 Plymouth Sport Sedan, mechanically good, only $499.00.
1949 Chev. Fleetline Sport Sedan, one owner, see this car.
1949 V-8 Town Sedan, loaded with extras, very sharp car.
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1948 Chev. Fleetline 4-door, loaded with extras, priced to sell.
1947 Chev. Town Sedan, radio & heater, only $579.00.
1947 V-8 Club Coupe, new car trade-in only $589.
1947 Ply. 2-door, radio & heater, original paint, only $599.00.
1947 Ply. 4-door Sedan, new car trade-in $572.00.
1947 Chev. Town Sedan, one owner, extra sharp $597.
1947 Ply. Town Sedan, new car trade-in, motor overhauled. $599.00
1947 Dodge Spt. Sedan, radio & heater, very nice $641.00.
1946 V-8 Club Coupe, loaded with extras, motor overhauled.
1946 V-8 Spt. Sedan, only $427.00.
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1946 Chev. Sport Sedan, extra good buy only $389.00.
1946 V-8 Club Coupe, one owner good condition $499.00.
1942 Nash Sport Sedan, runs good. Only $129.00
1941 Chev. Spt. Sedan, lot of good service, see this car.
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1938 Chev. Town Sedan, $99.00.
1938 V-8 Spt. Sedan, see this car.

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1950 G. M. C.-2 Ton, 2 speed rear axle, Chassis & Cab only $699.00
1950 Chev. 1½ Ton, Chassis & Cab, one owner.
1949 Chev. ½ Panel, New paint. 4 new tires, extra good $569.00
1947 G. M. C. 1½ Ton, with 1-Hat. Completely overhauled, only $399.00.
1941 Chev. 1½ Ton, Short wheel base, Flat & Coal Bed, only $299.00.
1940 Chev. ½ Ton, Box & Cattle racks. A good buy, only. $299.00.
1941 International ½ Ton, Box & Cattle racks $189.00.
1947 V-8 ½ Ton Cab & Box, $199.00
1941 V-8 1½ Ton Flat & Coal Bed, runs good $199.00.
1942 Chev. ½ Ton, Box & Cattle racks. $219.00.
1947 Chev. ½ Ton, one owner, radio & heater. $599.

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RUG MAKING POPULAR

Making rugs has become a very popular pastime in Boyle county, reports Miss Gladys Cotham, home demonstration agent with the University of Kentucky. In the Lancaster club for example, 144 braided and hooked rugs have been made as a result of past lessons in this craft. Mrs. Frank Evans has hooked 29 wool rugs, two were by 10 feet in size, and she is now finishing a second one 9 by 12 feet.

The Garden

By John S. Gardner, University of Kentucky.

Shopping for the complete seed list to fit the garden plan recommended last week should start now. That will give time for sending for the special things local seed merchants cannot handle.

Still another "inside job" is budgeting the farm's manure supply so that the garden may be assured of its share. The garden should have top priority. Besides the plantfood that manure contains, is the bedding, straw or other fibrous material that furnishes humus.

Humus is needed for conditioning soil and making it capable of holding moisture. Gardens that lacked it last year were observed to fail earlier or suffer more from drought. Whether or not 1954 will be another dry season nobody knows, but the long-range forecast (that hit well in the past several years) seems to indicate that at least in spots Kentucky may have another dry summer. Humus is drought insurance.

If there is not enough manure, it may be pieced out with straw, spoiled hay, tree leaves (preferably partly rotted) or even lawn clippings. Depending on how "fresh" these materials are, ammonium nitrate should be turned under with them, to make them rot the more quickly. The amount should be from 5 to 10 pounds per acre. The plowing-under should be done at least six weeks before seed sowing or plant setting, to make the rotting complete. With that mixture (or where stable manure is used) 500 lbs per acre of 20 percent superphosphate, or the same amount of phosphorus in the higher-powered superphosphates should be turned under to complete the fertility for a good garden.

Complete fertilizer is quite generally used now, but if it is used by itself without humus for even a few years, that garden soil becomes desert; even when rainfall is normal, yields are bad. In dry times, those gardens are the first to burn up.

For town and city gardens (where manure shortage is becoming acute) manure may sometimes be obtained from stockcars stand-ing on railroad sidings. Just a little diplomacy may be needed for permission to clean them out.

But however it's done, humus must be provided every year, but especially in the dry years that now and then come.

State Farm Food Valued At $1,149,051

Agricultural production on farms operated by the State at Welfare and Mental Health institutions was valued at $1,148,051 in 1953, according to a report just issued by Charles M. Stagner, State director of Agricultural Production.

The total was made at nine farms and included 8,195,055 pounds of vegetables, 723,863 gallons of milk; 892,227 pounds of meat; 142,922 dozen eggs, and 16,009,472 pounds of field crops.

The State Reformatory at LaGrange led in value of production with $263,894. Other farm totals: Central State Hospital, Lakeland, $173,738; Western State Hospital, Hopkinsville, $157,695; Kentucky State Hospital, Danville, $143,002; Eastern State Hospital, Lexington, $121,398; State Penitentiary, Eddyville, $116,395; Kentucky Training Home, Frankfort, $80,049; Kentucky Village, Greendale, $71,216, and Kentucky Children's Home, Lyndon, $20,665.

Production was enough to give each patient and inmate 1.34 pints of milk and 1.89 pounds of vegetables a day.

Billion-Ton Reserves Shown On Coal Maps

Maps of two Eastern Kentucky coal reserve areas — in Breathitt, Knott, Perry and Leslie counties — indicating reserves of almost a billion tons each are available here through the offices of the Agricultural and Industrial Development Board, it was announced by Phil M. Miles, Chief of the Board's Maps and Minerals section.

The maps — completed by the U. S. Geological Survey in conjunction with state agencies — are of the Buckhorn and Trouble-some quadrangle areas. The Buckhorn area includes reserves in Breathitt, Leslie and Perry counties, while the Troublesome quadrangle is in Breathitt, Knott and Perry counties.

Insurance Exams Set For New Sites

Commissioner of Insurance S. H. Goebel today announced opening of two new examination centers, in Paducah and Pineville, where agents may appear for tests to obtain licenses, to write insurance in Kentucky.

Under the present examination setup, examinations will be given at the Louisville and Frankfort offices on any business day, and, in addition at Covington, Morehead, Hazard, Somerset, Owensboro, Pineville, Mayfield, Bowling Green and Paducah on designated dates.

The schedule is so arranged that, starting March 1, examinations will be given at least twice a month in a centrally located area for each section of the state.

Sow Grass Seed In February

Reminders of things to do in February in beautifying the home grounds and flower garden were outlined to homemakers last week by Prof. N. R. Elliott, horticulturist at the University of Kentucky. They included:

Sow bluegrass seed on the lawn if you didn't sow it in September; remove overgrown shrubs or those no longer wanted; push soil firmly around the trunks of young shade trees that were set last fall, and plant sweet pea seed.

Mr. Elliott also recommended that homemakers make detailed plans for the summer flower gardens. In that way there can be a succession of bloom of flowers the right height and color. Mr. Elliott warned that the supply of many popularvarieties of flower seeds is never great enough to take care of the demand, and others should be placed early.

CHILD NOT LIABLE

A parent may not use a minor child for personal injuries, it was ruled by the Kentucky Court of Appeals in sustaining an order of the Pulaski Circuit Court.

Mrs. Alice B. Thompson had sued her 17-year-old son Raymond Thompson, for injuries suffered in an automobile accident, which caused the Court to comment that "it may be assumed that its purpose was to collect from an insurance company." It was held the mother had failed to show "legal emancipation" of the son, and therefore, the suit was improper.

A committee representing several counties is asking the University of Kentucky to establish an experiment substation in the northern part of the state.

Thomas W. Giles, Sudieville, will serve as leader of all 4-H club members enrolled in the tobacco project in Scott county.

BIG RETURNS FROM HALF-ACRE GARDEN

In addition to vegetables for his family of six persons, Allen Meiser of Knox county told UK County Agent Gray H. Williams he made the following sales: turnips, $50; greens, $50; sweet peppers, $15; onions, $15; beans, $20; rhubarb, $30; tomatoes, $20, and tomato plants, $00

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